

EPA REGION III

◁Office of Public Affairs

◁PM Headlines

Monday, December 12, 2011

PM HOT LIST

Chesapeake restores Wetzel County waterfall removed by subcontractors for drilling

ASSOCIATED PRESS (W. Va.) NEW MARTINSVILLE, W.Va. — Chesapeake Energy has restored a picturesque waterfall in Wetzel County that its subcontractors had removed for drilling operations. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ordered Chesapeake to restore the Blake Run waterfall near Proctor. Inspectors found during a site visit in 2010 that the waterfall and Blake Fork stream had been filled with gravel for a road. An investigation of alleged Clean Water Act violations between 2007 and 2010 is continuing and no fines have been issued, EPA spokeswoman Donna Heron told The Intelligencer and Wheeling News Register (<http://bit.ly/soLzYC>). Chesapeake spokeswoman Stacey Brodak said the company is in compliance with all EPA orders. "Once the EPA approved these plans and we obtained all federal, state and local permits, Chesapeake engaged a contractor to conduct the EPA-approved work," she said. Ed Wade, a member of Wetzel County Action Group, said he is glad to see the waterfall return. ... Chesapeake also is working to reinforce and restore soil at a well pad in Marshall County. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers had ordered the repairs.

Shale gas pipelines pose challenges to state's forests, wildlife

PITTSBURGH TRIBUNE-REVIEW The 8,500 miles of gas pipeline running under Pennsylvania could quadruple within the next two decades, according to a forthcoming study, raising questions about how the work will affect forests, wildlife and even the suburbs around Pittsburgh. Increased shale gas drilling in Pennsylvania could require between 10,000 and 25,000 miles of new pipe, according to researchers led by the Nature Conservancy. They studied pipe laying in Bradford County, the state's most drilled county in the Marcellus shale. The pipeline expansion would cut new clearings through forests, possibly introducing invasive species and threatening existing wildlife, according to the study. Several municipalities, such as Peters, Findlay and Cranberry, may have to grapple with how pipeline proposals affect their burgeoning residential and commercial development. "The pipeline issue is huge," said Nels Johnson, the conservancy's deputy state director and the study's lead author. "We need to find ways to make it much more efficient than it is today so that we use less land and expose fewer people to the risks that these pipelines may pose." The full report will be available on the conservancy's website by the end of December, but the pipeline section should be posted by early next week, he said.

Clearfield County well to hold fracking wastewater

CENTRE DAILY TIMES It's an old story by now in Pennsylvania: local residents upset about a Marcellus Shale-related well proposed in their back yard. But there's a difference in the well planned for Brady Township, Clearfield County. Instead of taking gas out of the ground, the well is intended to store fracking wastewater deep in the folds of the earth. Neighbors are up in arms, but the debate marks a new step in the evolution of the Marcellus Shale

play. "Injection of flowback fluids or fluids from the production process has been a common procedure for a long, long time, but it's still relatively rare in Pennsylvania," said Tom Murphy, co-director of the Penn State Marcellus Center for Outreach and Research.

Getting A Bill?

WEST VIRGINIA METRO NEWS The Chief of Staff for Governor Earl Ray Tomblin says he thinks lawmakers have a good Marcellus shale regulatory bill to consider during this week's Special Session. "I do think we're going to get a bill," Rob Alsop said when asked about that proposed legislation's chances on Monday's MetroNews Talkline. The bill that started moving on Monday morning includes permit fees of \$10,000 for the first drilling pad on a site and \$5,000 for each additional pad. That money would be used to hire additional inspectors through the state Department of Environmental Protection. "We have a responsibility to the citizens to make sure this funding is adequate," Alsop said. Governor Tomblin had originally supported lower fees. "I think it fair to say that we wanted to work with the Legislature and we've been working with them for the past couple of weeks and it was something that was important to them and we got comfortable with it," Alsop said. The proposed legislation, as it stands now, also includes a requirement that gas drillers have an agreement with the state Division of Highways to maintain any secondary roads that will be used to access a drilling site.

Water Wranglers Gush With Work to Fend Off EPA

BLOOMBERG NEWS Gary Evans founded his company, GreenHunter Energy Inc. (GRH), to tap into the growing need for renewable energy. Last year, he saw a bigger opportunity in the oil and natural-gas business: water. As local and federal regulators raise questions about potential pollution from drilling operations, U.S. oil and gas producers are turning to companies like GreenHunter to improve their handling of the millions of gallons of fluids involved in an average well. An investigation by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency found evidence of chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, in a drinking-water aquifer in Wyoming, the agency reported last week. Water-service companies help manage the chemical-tainted water that's a byproduct of drilling and production, cleaning and recycling it for re-use, and hauling it away for disposal.

Blog: Alpha agrees to \$50 million for selenium treatment

CHARLESTON-GAZETTE This just in from the Sierra Club: *Today, a coalition of conservation and environmental groups completed a legal settlement with Alpha Natural Resources over high levels of selenium output at several of the company's West Virginia coal mines. The settlement requires that the coal mining company – formerly Massey Energy – begin construction of selenium treatment facilities with an estimated construction cost of over \$50 million, and to pay penalties of \$4.5 million. The suit was brought by the West Virginia Chapter of the Sierra Club, West Virginia Highlands Conservancy, Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition, and Coal River Mountain Watch. "This settlement will require Alpha to pay their due and start addressing the damage done to West Virginia waterways," said Jim Sconyers, Chair of the West Virginia Chapter of the Sierra Club. "This settlement reflects another step in our fight to ensure that coal companies act responsibly in regards to the health of surrounding communities and West Virginia's wild lands."*

Blog: 'This bill should die': Environmentalists, surface owners oppose Gov. Tomblin's drilling legislation

CHARLESTON-GAZETTE As lawmakers dig in for this week's special session to consider Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin's gas-drilling legislation, the governor's bill is being strongly opposed by two organizations whose concerns are protecting the environment and the interests of surface landowners in gas-drilling areas. Both the West Virginia Environmental Council and the West Virginia Surface Owners' Rights Organization announced today that they are against Tomblin's bill. They cite numerous ways in which the legislation is far weaker than a bill worked out and proposed by a special joint interim committee that spent most of this year working on these issues. Among the top problems the groups point to with Gov. Tomblin's legislation:

Philly district wins green-schools award

PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER Here's a quiz: What do you think when you hear the words *Philadelphia School District* and *green*? A superintendent best remembered for the way she got paid? Try this one: On Monday, Philadelphia will be named the nation's No. 1 urban school district when it comes to making schools sustainable. And no, we're not talking about solar-powered metal detectors. Picture buildings whose designs save energy, conserve natural resources, and provide an environment, as Manny Ortiz, a junior at Kensington's Creative and Performing Arts High School, put it, "that makes me for the first time want to show off my school." The district has won the top award from the U.S. Building Council's Center for Green Schools, whose director, Rachel Gutter, described the city's accomplishment as "amazing."

MORNING HOT LIST

Board to Dimock families: Try the water remedies

SCRANTON TIMES Dimock Twp. families fighting for the resumption of drinking water deliveries suffered a setback Friday when a hearing board issued an order that urges them to try the remedies offered by the state and the natural gas driller blamed with contaminating their water wells with methane. Earlier this month, Cabot Oil & Gas Corp. stopped delivery of bulk and bottled water to 11 families after the state determined the driller had fulfilled the terms of a December 2010 settlement. The settlement required the company to offer to install methane-removal systems and fund escrow accounts with twice the tax-assessed value of each of the affected homes. Eleven of the families rejected those terms, which they consider inadequate to restore their water supplies permanently.

'Dimock water' becomes flashpoint for antidrilling activists

HARRISBURG PATRIOT-NEWS MONTROSE "Other communities have had water problems as a result of nearby Marcellus gas drilling operations, but none has the nationwide name recognition and activist cache as the Susquehanna County town of Dimock. When Cabot Oil & Gas drilled for gas there, several local water wells began bubbling with methane. Some locals said gas had always been in the water there. The state Department of Environmental Protection determined that Cabot had inadequately cased its wells, allowing non-Marcellus methane to migrate into the local aquifer. Cabot said it was not at fault.

Sewage leaks foul city streams, harbor

BALTIMORE-SUN Heavy rains routinely trigger big sewage overflows in Baltimore, but there is growing evidence that chronic leaks from the region's aging, cracked sewer lines are a bigger threat to public health. Though storm-fed spills can be dramatic, Baltimore's streams and harbor are also fouled on sunny days as storm drains yield grayish discharges that look and smell like sewage. That is what they are. Even the nearly \$2 billion overhaul under way on the 3,100 miles of sewer lines in the city and Baltimore County won't be enough to make those waters safe, experts and activists say. Leaks allow raw sewage to seep into storm drain pipes, which funnel rain from streets, parking lots and buildings into nearby waterways. In some cases, the waste is being piped directly into storm drains through illegal connections.

Despite study, concerns linger

WASHINGTON POST Janet Bohlen inspects a faded 1918 photo of a dozen Army soldiers standing shoulder-deep in rugged trenches. The uniformed men aim their rifles at an unseen target behind American University. "It looks like they're right on the playing field, doesn't it?" she says, sitting in her living room. "Wouldn't you love to be able to identify exactly where that is now?" From the other side of her coffee table, her husband, Buff, quips, "Don't you recognize your own back yard?" The Bohlens have lived in the Spring Valley section of Northwest Washington for 52 years, raising three children and now settling into retirement. Over the past two decades, the Army Corps of Engineers has excavated pockets of their wealthy, tree-lined neighborhood, which was built over the Army's

™s World War I chemical warfare testing grounds, to analyze possible contamination. Now, Johns Hopkins University is about to embark on yet another health study in this neighborhood.

Growing gas lines see loose oversight

SCRANTON TIMES PITTSBURGH - The blossoming growth of pipelines in Pennsylvania is expected to quadruple in the next two decades, according to a coming study, with proponents and critics weighing in to see how that will affect the state's forests, wildlife and communities. Increased shale gas drilling in Pennsylvania could require between 10,000 and 25,000 miles of new pipe, the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review reported Sunday, citing researchers led by the Nature Conservancy. They studied pipe laying in Bradford County, the state's most-drilled county in the Marcellus Shale. Pipeline expansion could cut new clearings through forests and invasive species could come in and threaten existing wildlife, the paper reported. Also to be determined is what effect new pipeline construction could have on residential and commercial development. "The pipeline issue is huge," said Nels Johnson, the conservancy's deputy state director and the study's lead author.

Marcellus bill would set \$10,000 permit fees, require advance notice

ASSOCIATED PRESS (W. Va.) CHARLESTON — West Virginia would charge natural gas drillers \$10,000 and \$5,000 permit fees, require advance notice to surface property owners and rely on its Department of Environmental Protection to set standards for well sites under a special session bill introduced Sunday to regulate the Marcellus shale field. The Senate and House of Delegates met briefly to receive the proposal from Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin, drawn largely from a draft endorsed last month by a special joint legislative panel. The Senate Judiciary Committee will tackle that chamber's version of the bill today, and it would then go to the body's Finance Committee. The House Judiciary Committee takes up its version Tuesday, after holding a public hearing today in the House Chamber.

Citizens say mercury polluters' time is up

WEST VIRGINIA STATE JOURNAL In one of the nation's most mercury-polluted states, a group of citizens are encouraging federal regulators in their effort to tightly restrict mercury emissions from local power plants. At a "teach-in" event in Charleston hosted by the Sierra Club, concerned West Virginia residents met to discuss the Environmental Protection Agency's latest efforts to rein in mercury emissions from power plants. The deadline for the toxic air pollution reduction rule is coming Dec. 16. "I'm sympathetic when we learn a new scientific fact that we need to give industry time for a transition and to be in compliance with more stringent standards," said Renate Pore, policy director of West Virginians for Affordable Healthcare. "I think we've already — we've known these facts for a long time and we don't need to delay anymore. If the EPA has the standards ready, West Virginia politicians should not fight them. It's about the health of our population."

Youth Watershed Implementation Plan in Canton

TOWANDA DAILY REVIEW The Bradford County Conservation District has created a new initiative for the youth in our schools. Schools have an opportunity to link up with the conservation district to create Youth WIP or Youth Watershed Implementation Plans. These plans are meant to focus on water quality in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. The students will be asked for their input and ideas in how everyone might assist in improving overall water quality by focusing on land use activities and conservation practices. The Canton agricultural and science classes, along with the Canton FFA, are working at planning on assisting the conservation district with communicating with the public regarding updated laws and regulations governing the protection of the waterways in Bradford County. They will also be hosting a meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2012, which will be open to anyone who wishes to attend. There, the Bradford County Conservation District will review updated regulations and requirements for agricultural operations. This would include anyone who has any size animal or crop operation. The conservation district is there to offer hands-on assistance in developing plans, offering individualized assistance, or discussing areas where financial assistance may be available.

PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

From Early Bird Federal pipeline oversight agency was troubled from the start

(Saturday) When it comes to the small federal office charged with keeping U.S. pipelines safe, government auditors have been repeating themselves for more than three decades. In 1978, federal auditors said the office was reluctant to issue penalties, and simply took companies' word that problems were fixed. In 1984, they said it wasn't doing a very good job at supervising state pipeline-safety offices. In September, in a report on a tragic natural gas explosion in San Bruno, Calif., the National Transportation Safety Board called the agency "weak," and its oversight of state safety programs still "ineffective." The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, or PHMSA, an agency within the U.S. Department of Transportation, has been a problem child ever since its birth in 1968 - buffeted by industry pressure, perennially short of staffing, a whipping boy for critics in Congress and safety advocates.

From Early Bird Top U.S. lawmaker on pipeline rules (today) Soon after horrific natural gas explosions killed five people in Allentown and a utility worker in Philadelphia, a Pennsylvania congressman called a hearing in March to talk about improving pipeline safety. Right away, U.S. Rep. Bill Shuster made one thing clear: He wasn't sure the solution was more federal inspectors, or even a more powerful U.S. pipeline safety agency with tougher regulations. "I believe we can do more with less," he told reporters covering the hearing in King of Prussia. Shuster's opinion counts. The Republican from south-central Pennsylvania is the new chairman of the House subcommittee on railroads, pipelines, and hazardous materials - making him one of the most powerful members in Congress on the issue of pipeline regulation. He says the rules should encourage natural gas development, not get in the way.

From Early Bird Powerful Pipes, Weak Oversight

First in a four-part series. WAYNESBURG, Pa. - Through the hilly fields here in southwestern Pennsylvania, crews worked for months this year, cutting a trench through woods and past farms for a new natural gas pipeline. Like many other lines crisscrossing the state's Marcellus Shale regions, this pipe was big - a high-pressure steel line, 20 inches in diameter, large enough to help move a buried ocean of natural gas out of this corner of the state. It was also plenty big enough to set off a sizable explosion if something went wrong. There was trouble on the job. Far too many of the welds that tied the pipe sections together were failing inspection and had to be done over. A veteran welder, now an organizer for a national pipeline union, happened upon the line and tried to blow the whistle on what he considered substandard work. But there was no one to call.

Similar Pipes, Different Rules **Second in a four-part series.** When the owners of the Tennessee natural gas pipeline decided to expand the pipe in the Marcellus Shale region of Pennsylvania's northern tier, the federal safety rules they had to follow filled a book. For this interstate transmission line running north from the Gulf Coast, the regulations covered everything from the strength of the steel to the welding methods to how deep the pipeline must be buried. Also in Bradford County, another company - Chesapeake Energy - is building a pipeline the same size as the Tennessee line, 24 inches in diameter. And it's designed to operate at even higher pressure - up to 1,440 pounds per square inch. But for this line, in this rural section of shale country, there are no safety rules at all.

Philly district wins green-schools award

Here's a quiz: What do you think when you hear the words *Philadelphia School District* and *green*? A superintendent best remembered for the way she got paid? Try this one: On Monday, Philadelphia will be named the nation's No. 1 urban school district when it comes to making schools sustainable. And no, we're not talking about solar-powered metal detectors. Picture buildings whose designs save energy, conserve natural resources, and provide an environment, as Manny Ortiz, a junior at Kensington's Creative and Performing Arts High School, put it, "that makes me for the first time want to show off my school." The district has won the top award from the U.S. Building Council's Center for Green Schools, whose director, Rachel Gutter, described the city's accomplishment as "amazing."

PITTSBURGH POST GAZETTE

From Early Bird A big firm moves in; landowners face new types of shale leases (Yesterday) OHIO COUNTY, W.Va. -- In its rapid ascent to become a top leaseholder in the Marcellus Shale, Chesapeake Energy came to West Virginia and put into play a strategy designed to narrow landowner rights and expand company control over all phases of the drilling cycle. The Oklahoma City-based energy giant absorbed the region -- which sits above the natural gas rock formation -- in just a few months, driving down landowners' bargaining power, and in some cases preventing leases from expiring, locking landowners into those contracts indefinitely. Chesapeake Energy moved into Ohio County through a quiet 2010 land swap with Range Resources -- unknown even to the landowners whose property rights changed hands. Analysts on Wall Street and dairy farmers in this area now see the same thing: One powerful firm suddenly overtook the leases, and the rules of the game immediately changed. A Pittsburgh Post-Gazette examination of hundreds of West Virginia leases signed between 2006 and 2011 revealed new lease practices that drastically changed the terms for landowners:

From Early Bird A leader in green building

In a city with many notable green buildings, Phipps Conservatory's new Center for Sustainable Landscapes, opening this spring, will be in a category by itself. The center is Phase III of Phipps' expansion project to upgrade and expand its facilities. Phases I and II resulted in the 2005 Welcome Center and the 2006 Tropical Forest Conservatory.

From Early Bird House in East Liberty to teach about safety and savings on energy

An affordable mortgage isn't the only thing that makes a home affordable, and ACTION-Housing will use an old East Liberty house to show people what they can do to spend less on a place to live. (Today)

SCRANTON TIMES

From Early Bird Growing gas lines see loose oversight

PITTSBURGH - The blossoming growth of pipelines in Pennsylvania is expected to quadruple in the next two decades, according to a coming study, with proponents and critics weighing in to see how that will affect the state's forests, wildlife and communities. Increased shale gas drilling in Pennsylvania could require between 10,000 and 25,000 miles of new pipe, the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review reported Sunday, citing researchers led by the Nature Conservancy. They studied pipe laying in Bradford County, the state's most-drilled county in the Marcellus Shale. Pipeline expansion could cut new clearings through forests and invasive species could come in and threaten existing wildlife, the paper reported. Also to be determined is what effect new pipeline construction could have on residential and commercial development.

From Early Bird Board to Dimock families: Try the water remedies Dimock Twp. families fighting for the resumption of drinking water deliveries suffered a setback Friday when a hearing board issued an order that urges them to try the remedies offered by the state and the natural gas driller blamed with contaminating their water wells with methane. Earlier this month, Cabot Oil & Gas Corp. stopped delivery of bulk and bottled water to 11 families after the state determined the driller had fulfilled the terms of a December 2010 settlement. The settlement required the company to offer to install methane-removal systems and fund escrow accounts with twice the tax-assessed value of each of the affected homes. Eleven of the families rejected those terms, which they consider inadequate to restore their water supplies permanently.

From Early Bird UGI links shale gas to system Utility celebrates first Marcellus connection When UGI utilities purchases gas, it usually isn't a big deal. But unlike most acquisitions that end up deep in a state Public Utility Commission filing, UGI is celebrating the first direct connection to Marcellus Shale wells for UGI Central Penn Gas Inc., UGI's unit serving the middle of the state. Utility officials say there won't be sparkling wine or eggnog, but there will be a holiday meal for the public and celebratory mood Friday at the Mansfield Hose Company starting at 11 a.m. Not far away is a direct connection from wells to UGI's distribution system. For UGI's history as a public utility it has purchased natural gas from as far away as the Rocky Mountains or Gulf of Mexico to meet customers' needs.

HARRISBURG PATRIOT-NEWS

From Early Bird 'Dimock water' becomes flashpoint for antidrilling activists

MONTROSE -- Other communities have had water problems as a result of nearby Marcellus gas drilling operations, but none has the nationwide name recognition and activist cache as the Susquehanna County town of Dimock. When

Cabot Oil & Gas drilled for gas there, several local water wells began bubbling with methane. Some locals said gas had always been in the water there. The state Department of Environmental Protection determined that Cabot had inadequately cased its wells, allowing non-Marcellus methane to migrate into the local aquifer. Cabot said it was not at fault.

From Early Bird Marcellus Shale natural gas boom alters Pa.'s economy A less-obvious effect of Pennsylvania's natural gas boom is the increased industrial development that comes with lower gas prices. Economic Development Secretary C. Alan Walker said that, according to a Public Utility Commission calculation, the decrease in natural gas prices has saved Pennsylvania energy consumers \$13 billion in the last two years. That's industry as well as home heating. About 17 percent of Pennsylvania's electricity is generated by natural gas, a ten-fold increase since 2001, according to a recent report from the U.S. Energy Information Administration. In addition to the increased demand for steel products, natural gas plays an increasingly important role in the production of steel, according to U.S. Steel CEO John Surma.

From Early Bird Marcellus Shale industry brings 'tsunami of jobs' to Pa.

December 10, 2011, 10:38PM When the gas men appeared at her parents' organic dairy farm near Wyalusing in Bradford County, Tara Hoyt was suspicious. "I was concerned about the possible impact on our farm," she said. "I started researching everything." At the time, she was a communications major at Wilkes University. Today she works in the gas industry.

TOWANDA DAILY REVIEW

From Early Bird Youth Watershed Implementation Plan in Canton The Bradford County Conservation District has created a new initiative for the youth in our schools. Schools have an opportunity to link up with the conservation district to create Youth WIP or Youth Watershed Implementation Plans. These plans are meant to focus on water quality in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. The students will be asked for their input and ideas in how everyone might assist in improving overall water quality by focusing on land use activities and conservation practices. The Canton agricultural and science classes, along with the Canton FFA, are working at planning on assisting the conservation district with communicating with the public regarding updated laws and regulations governing the protection of the waterways in Bradford County. They will also be hosting a meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2012, which will be open to anyone who wishes to attend. There, the Bradford County Conservation District will review updated regulations and requirements for agricultural operations. This would include anyone who has any size animal or crop operation. The conservation district is there to offer hands-on assistance in developing plans, offering individualized assistance, or discussing areas where financial assistance may be available.

GANT DAILY

From Early Bird Webinar to Focus on Impacts of Marcellus Gas Development on Forestland

A Web-based seminar sponsored by Penn State Extension and the College of Agricultural Sciences will examine how Marcellus Shale natural-gas development is affecting forestland in Pennsylvania. The 75-minute webinar will begin at 1 p.m. Dec. 15. Presenters will be Ellen Shultzabarger, chief of the Forest Resources Planning Section of the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and Tony Quadro, forester and assistant district manager for the Westmoreland County Conservation District. "We'll cover the impacts of gas activity on state forestlands and what we've done to reduce and minimize the effects of the Marcellus play on our forests," Shultzabarger said. "Avoid, minimize, mitigate and monitor" that's our approach. Shultzabarger said the session will highlight the policies and management practices the department follows to decrease the fragmentation and impact to state forestlands. "We'll also discuss the lessons we have learned and practices we recommend for use in communities and on private lands."

From Early Bird Two More Regulatory Reform Measures Sent to Senate WASHINGTON, D.C. "U.S. Rep. Glenn Thompson recently voted to support H.R. 1633, the Farm Dust Regulation Prevention Act, which passed the U.S. House of Representatives vote of 268-150. H.R. 1633, which prohibits the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from regulating farm dust that is already regulated at the state or local level, is the fourth federal regulatory reform measure that has passed the House in the last two weeks. "Farmers already comply with similar regulations

on state and local levels, additional mandates to comply with Federal regulations are duplicative and will only add administrative costs and detract from the real business at hand — farming,” said Thompson.

JOHNSTOWN TRIBUNE-DEMOCRAT

Group targets power plants for pollution HOMER CITY — As environmentalists push federal regulators to come up with tighter emissions standards for coal-fired power generating plants, a new report shows three plants in this region are among the top air polluters in the country. The Environmental Integrity Project (EIP), using data reported by power plants to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, lists the EME Homer City Generation Plant as No. 7 of the 20 top facilities in the county for emissions of four toxic metals. The Indiana County power plant, owned by Edison International, earned a place on the top 20 list because of emissions of arsenic, chromium, lead and mercury. Also earning a place on the top 20 was the Shawville Station in Clearfield County, owned by GenOn Energy Inc., which came in closer to the top at No. 3 for emissions of the four toxic metals. In all, six Pennsylvania power plants earned a place on EIP’s top 20 list. The state ranks No. 1 for emissions of arsenic, cobalt and lead, the report asserts. Excess of all of the emissions from the plants can cause a variety of health problems, including fetal development, EIP contributors said. To read stories in their entirety, visit one of these links:

Local enthusiasts aiding bird census

Deb and Tom Bodenshatz already have their binoculars and checklists handy. They are ready to be part of the 112th annual Christmas Bird Count to begin Wednesday and run through Jan. 5.

Gas pipeline will go under river

(Friday) The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers says part of the Monongahela River in Washington County will experience periodic closures through year’s end while a Wisconsin construction company digs a Marcellus natural gas pipeline under the river for Dominion Resources of Richmond, Va.

CENTRE DAILY TIMES

Clearfield County well to hold fracking wastewater

It’s an old story by now in Pennsylvania: local residents upset about a Marcellus Shale-related well proposed in their back yard. But there’s a difference in the well planned for Brady Township, Clearfield County. Instead of taking gas out of the ground, the well is intended to store fracking wastewater deep in the folds of the earth. Neighbors are up in arms, but the debate marks a new step in the evolution of the Marcellus Shale play. “Injection of flowback fluids or fluids from the production process has been a common procedure for a long, long time, but it’s still relatively rare in Pennsylvania,” said Tom Murphy, co-director of the Penn State Marcellus Center for Outreach and Research.

Citizens need to be priority, not gas Just when it seems the Corbett administration’s pandering to the natural gas drilling industry can’t get more excessive, divine favor is evoked. State Labor and Industry Secretary Julia Hearshway told a Capitol forum that Pennsylvania is “blessed” to be hosting drillers in the Marcellus Shale, the National Public Radio-affiliated StateImpact reported this week. This followed Department of Environmental Protection Secretary Michael Krancer waving off criticism of drillers while speaking to a Rotary Club in Erie last month and calling the shale a “blessing under our feet,

PITTSBURGH TRIBUNE-REVIEW

Shale gas pipelines pose challenges to state's forests, wildlife The 8,500 miles of gas pipeline running under Pennsylvania could quadruple within the next two decades, according to a forthcoming study, raising questions about how the work will affect forests, wildlife and even the suburbs around Pittsburgh. Increased shale gas drilling in Pennsylvania could require between 10,000 and 25,000 miles of new pipe, according to researchers led by the Nature Conservancy. They studied pipe laying in Bradford County, the state's most drilled county in the Marcellus shale. The pipeline expansion would cut new clearings through forests, possibly introducing invasive species and threatening existing wildlife, according to the study. Several municipalities, such as Peters, Findlay and Cranberry, may have to grapple with how pipeline proposals affect their burgeoning residential and commercial development. "The pipeline issue is huge," said Nels Johnson, the conservancy's deputy state director and the study's lead author. "We need to find ways to make it much more efficient than it is today so that we use less land and expose fewer people to the risks that these pipelines may pose." The full report will be available on the conservancy's website by the end of December, but

the pipeline section should be posted by early next week, he said.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

WASHINGTON POST

From Early Bird Despite study, concerns linger Janet Bohlen inspects a faded 1918 photo of a dozen Army soldiers standing shoulder-deep in rugged trenches. The uniformed men aim their rifles at an unseen target behind American University. "It looks like they're right on the playing field, doesn't it?" she says, sitting in her living room. "Wouldn't you love to be able to identify exactly where that is now?" From the other side of her coffee table, her husband, Buff, quips, "Don't you recognize your own back yard?" The Bohlens have lived in the Spring Valley section of Northwest Washington for 52 years, raising three children and now settling into retirement. Over the past two decades, the Army Corps of Engineers has excavated pockets of their wealthy, tree-lined neighborhood, which was built over the Army's World War I chemical warfare testing grounds, to analyze possible contamination. Now, Johns Hopkins University is about to embark on yet another health study in this neighborhood.

From Early Bird Activists against asbestos

Grupos del Área piden leyes que sancionen a empresas negligentes con el material tóxico Por Milagros Meléndez-Vela El Tiempo Latino Organizaciones sindicales buscan que legisladores del Área metropolitana impulsen propuestas que regulen de mejor forma la industria de reducción de asbestos. Y piden mayores sanciones para las compañías que violen los estándares de salud, exponiendo a sus trabajadores al tóxico.

WEST VIRGINIA

ASSOCIATED PRESS (W. Va.)

From Early Bird Marcellus bill would set \$10,000 permit fees, require advance notice

CHARLESTON, W.Va. "West Virginia would charge natural gas drillers \$10,000 and \$5,000 permit fees, require advance notice to surface property owners and rely on its Department of Environmental Protection to set standards for well sites under a special session bill introduced Sunday to regulate the Marcellus shale field. The Senate and House of Delegates met briefly to receive the proposal from Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin, drawn largely from a draft endorsed last month by a special joint legislative panel. The Senate Judiciary Committee will tackle that chamber's version of the bill Monday, and it would then go to the body's Finance Committee. The House Judiciary Committee takes up its version on Tuesday, after holding a public hearing Monday in the House Chamber.

Chesapeake restores Wetzel County waterfall removed by subcontractors for drilling NEW MARTINSVILLE, W.Va. — Chesapeake Energy has restored a picturesque waterfall in Wetzel County that its subcontractors had removed for drilling operations. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ordered Chesapeake to restore the Blake Run waterfall near Proctor. Inspectors found during a site visit in 2010 that the waterfall and Blake Fork stream had been filled with gravel for a road. An investigation of alleged Clean Water Act violations between 2007 and 2010 is continuing and no fines have been issued, EPA spokeswoman Donna Heron told The Intelligencer and Wheeling News Register (<http://bit.ly/soLzYC>). Chesapeake spokeswoman Stacey Brodak said the company is in compliance with all EPA orders. "Once the EPA approved these plans and we obtained all federal, state and local permits, Chesapeake engaged a contractor to conduct the EPA-approved work," she said. Ed Wade, a member of Wetzel County Action Group, said he

is glad to see the waterfall return. ... Chesapeake also is working to reinforce and restore soil at a well pad in Marshall County. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers had ordered the repairs.

WEST VIRGINIA STATE JOURNAL

From Early Bird Citizens say mercury polluters' time is up

In one of the nation's most mercury-polluted states, a group of citizens are encouraging federal regulators in their effort to tightly restrict mercury emissions from local power plants. At a "teach-in" event in Charleston hosted by the Sierra Club, concerned West Virginia residents met to discuss the Environmental Protection Agency's latest efforts to rein in mercury emissions from power plants. The deadline for the toxic air pollution reduction rule is coming Dec. 16. "I'm sympathetic when we learn a new scientific fact that we need to give industry time for a transition and to be in compliance with more stringent standards," said Renate Pore, policy director of West Virginians for Affordable Healthcare. "I think we've already â€ we've known these facts for a long time and we don't need to delay anymore. If the EPA has the standards ready, West Virginia politicians should not fight them. It's about the health of our population."

CHARLESTON DAILY MAIL

â€Crackerâ€™ investor Richard Neely unwilling to wait CHARLESTON, W.Va. - Former state Supreme Court Justice Richard Neely realized over the summer he didn't want to wait around on a large out-of-state company to decide whether it would build a massive petrochemical facility in West Virginia. So, Neely decided to help start a company to try to get one built on a 1,500-acre plot near Montgomery. The facility, known as a "cracker," would take advantage of the region's natural gas boom. A cracker converts ethane, which is abundant in certain natural gas fields, into ethylene, which is used to make plastics. Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin's administration thinks a cracker in West Virginia could rejuvenate the state's manufacturing base.

CHARLESTON-GAZETTE

Blog: Alpha agrees to \$50 million for selenium treatment This just in from the Sierra Club: *Today, a coalition of conservation and environmental groups completed a legal settlement with Alpha Natural Resources over high levels of selenium output at several of the company's West Virginia coal mines. The settlement requires that the coal mining company – formerly Massey Energy – begin construction of selenium treatment facilities with an estimated construction cost of over \$50 million, and to pay penalties of \$4.5 million. The suit was brought by the West Virginia Chapter of the Sierra Club, West Virginia Highlands Conservancy, Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition, and Coal River Mountain Watch. "This settlement will require Alpha to pay their due and start addressing the damage done to West Virginia waterways," said Jim Sconyers, Chair of the West Virginia Chapter of the Sierra Club. "This settlement reflects another step in our fight to ensure that coal companies act responsibly in regards to the health of surrounding communities and West Virginia's wild lands."*

Blog: 'This bill should die': Environmentalists, surface owners oppose Gov. Tomblin's drilling legislation As lawmakers dig in for this week's special session to consider Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin's gas-drilling legislation, the governor's bill is being strongly opposed by two organizations whose concerns are protecting the environment and the interests of surface landowners in gas-drilling areas. Both the West Virginia Environmental Council and the West Virginia Surface Owners' Rights Organization announced today that they are against Tomblin's bill. They cite numerous ways in which the legislation is far weaker than a bill worked out and proposed by a special joint interim committee that spent most of this year working on these issues. Among the top problems the groups point to with Gov. Tomblin's legislation:

Hummingbirds at Guango Lodge put on a show

Back in September when I visited Ecuador, I had one primary goal. I wanted to return to the cloud forest that surrounds Guango Lodge (http://cabanasanisidro.com/pages/guango_lodge.htm) where I had spent a few memorable hours three years ago. My group was too large to spend the night at the lodge, so we stopped for lunch. It took me nearly two hours to herd the group less than 100 feet from the parking lot to the dining room. The group was bedazzled by the hundreds of hummingbirds visiting the many nectar feeders along the short cobblestone path. After that brief visit, I vowed to return for a longer stay. This time I spent two nights and most of three days at Guango. I rarely wandered more than 50 yards from the Lodge. When I arrived in midafternoon, I was disappointed. There were no birds on any of the 17 nectar

feeders. Fortunately, my disappointment was short-lived.

WEST VIRGINIA METRO NEWS

Getting A Bill? The Chief of Staff for Governor Earl Ray Tomblin says he thinks lawmakers have a good Marcellus shale regulatory bill to consider during this week's Special Session. "I do think we're going to get a bill," Rob Alsop said when asked about that proposed legislation's chances on Monday's MetroNews Talkline. The bill that started moving on Monday morning includes permit fees of \$10,000 for the first drilling pad on a site and \$5,000 for each additional pad. That money would be used to hire additional inspectors through the state Department of Environmental Protection. "We have a responsibility to the citizens to make sure this funding is adequate," Alsop said. Governor Tomblin had originally supported lower fees. "I think it fair to say that we wanted to work with the Legislature and we've been working with them for the past couple of weeks and it was something that was important to them and we got comfortable with it," Alsop said. The proposed legislation, as it stands now, also includes a requirement that gas drillers have an agreement with the state Division of Highways to maintain any secondary roads that will be used to access a drilling site.

DELAWARE

WILMINGTON NEWS JOURNAL

From Early Bird Commentary: Representatives urged to protect waterways

On inauguration day, our state's elected officials pledge "to respect the right of future generations to share the rich historic and natural heritage of Delaware." In November, Gov. Markell upheld that oath when he voted to protect the drinking water of 15 million people in the Delaware River Basin from hydraulic fracturing. The Delaware Nature Society encourages our elected officials in Washington to show the same leadership and environmental responsibility. Currently there are 54 proposed riders that could be attached to congressional appropriation bills that would block enforcement of several bedrock public health and environmental laws. One such rider is the Barrasso-Heller "Dirty Water" rider. This rider will prevent the EPA and Army Corps of Engineers from moving forward to better protect U.S. waters. If this rider succeeds, it will introduce more pollution into our drinking water supplies, threaten public health, and force communities to pay more to clean up flood damage. Another rider would create a loophole for pesticide applicators to spray toxic chemicals directly into our waterways without complying with permits which were created to protect our waterways.

MARYLAND

BALTIMORE SUN

From Early Bird Sewage leaks foul city streams, harbor

Heavy rains routinely trigger big sewage overflows in Baltimore, but there is growing evidence that chronic leaks from the region's aging, cracked sewer lines are a bigger threat to public health. Though storm-fed spills can be dramatic, Baltimore's streams and harbor are also fouled on sunny days as storm drains yield grayish discharges that look and smell like sewage. That is what they are. Even the nearly \$2 billion overhaul under way on the 3,100 miles of sewer lines in the city and Baltimore County won't be enough to make those waters safe, experts and activists say. Leaks allow raw sewage to seep into storm drain pipes, which funnel rain from streets, parking lots and buildings into nearby waterways. In some cases, the waste is being piped directly into storm drains through illegal connections

From Early Bird Roads reopen after raw sewage spill in Frederick Roads are reopen following a raw sewage spill at Frederick's waste water treatment plant, county officials said Monday. The spill subsided by early Monday and the plant

is operating on generator power, according to the city. On Sunday evening, Gas House Pike was closed from Highland Street to Monocacy Boulevard. Citizens should avoid water contact downstream from the spill, located at Carroll Creek and the Monocacy River on Gas House Pike, county officials said. The city's drinking water has not been affected by the spill, officials said.

From Early Bird Md., Va. governors compete nationally, but play nice at home

... Despite their deep ideological differences, occasional sparring on national television and the natural competition between the two neighboring states, the governors have been able to maintain a working relationship that rarely erupts in public spats. Advocates for various regional issues say their mutual respect has smoothed the way for agreements on transportation, emergency preparedness, crime reduction and Chesapeake Bay restoration. The partisan pressure dividing them, however, is about to kick up a notch. ... Still, O'Malley and McDonnell have produced concrete results, including an array of agreements centered on the health of the Chesapeake Bay. They hammered out consistent rules for how to determine when an oyster bed is considered restored. They've agreed on methods to monitor Bay water quality. And, though the initial blue crab agreement was made with McDonnell's predecessor, environmental advocates and Maryland officials were relieved that Virginia's new Republican administration did not attempt to weaken to it. "We get pressure every year to extend the harvest season," said Frank W. Dawson III, an assistant secretary at the Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

From Early Bird Shore county sued over farmland zoning In what some see as a critical test of a recent Smart Growth law, environmental groups and some property owners have filed suit to overturn the recent decision by Queen Anne's County's commissioners to zone 525 acres of Eastern Shore farmland for development. The suit, filed Thursday in Centreville, charges that the commissioners violated state law Nov. 8 in narrowly approving rezoning of four farm tracts, two of them in the headwaters of the Wye River and one in the Choptank River watershed. Joining in the suit are the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Chesapeake Wildlife Heritage, the Mid-Shore Riverkeeper and Queen Anne's Conservation Association, along with neighboring property owners and other residents.

ANNAPOLIS CAPITAL

From Early Bird Environmentalists sue over QA rezoning Say commissioners ignoring residents, development plan Environmentalists are suing the Queen Anne's County Board of Commissioners, saying elected officials ignored the will of residents in upzoning hundreds of acres of rural land. In a lawsuit filed Friday in Queen Anne's Circuit Court, the environmentalists said the 3-2 zoning vote was directly in violation of the county's comprehensive development plan, which said the areas should remain rural. The comprehensive plan was updated in 2010 after a lengthy process with the input of more than 100 people.

SALISBURY DAILY TIMES

From Early Bird Barrier Islands Center receives \$1 million Funds will assist with education, outreach and operation. MACHIPONGO -- The board of directors and staff of the Barrier Islands Center announced that the center has been named a recipient of a \$1 million Batten Endowment Challenge administered by the Hampton Roads Community Foundation. The gift was made possible by Jane Batten, a philanthropist and wife of the late Frank Batten Sr., former chairman of Landmark Communications.

From Early Bird Oyster ban fails to gain traction ANNAPOLIS -- The Chesapeake Bay's oyster population has plummeted since the late 1960s, when Willy Dean, a Maryland waterman since the age of 17, would go hand tonging with his father and "load the boat with oysters." "The catch is way, way down from what it was back then," Dean said. The population is so low that several scientists recommended a complete halt on oyster harvesting in a study published in August by the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science. But a moratorium has not gained

◇

VIRGINIA

RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH

From Early Bird Obama administration saps Virginia's energy In October, Gov. Bob McDonnell celebrated Energy Month in the commonwealth with a series of summits focused on how to transform Virginia into the "Energy Capital of the East Coast." From expanded nuclear power plants to the development of offshore wind, oil and natural gas, McDonnell argued that the commonwealth possesses the vast natural resources "and political acumen" to advance a sound energy future that will support Virginia's economic-development and job-growth goals. Unfortunately, Virginia cannot unilaterally move forward on the path to energy development. Time and again, the federal government, which has a tremendous say on energy exploration and production issues, has sacrificed sound energy policy upon the altar of political expediency and refused to move forward with sensible, environmentally responsible development.

VIRGINIAN PILOT

From Early Bird Dominion gives big money to help preserve Beach land Dominion Resources Inc., owner of Dominion Virginia Power, announced that it has donated \$500,000 toward the preservation of Pleasure House Point in Virginia Beach. It's among just a dozen single gifts of at least that size that the Dominion Foundation, the company's philanthropic arm, granted in the past five years. That's because the environment is one of its top priorities, said Marjorie Grier, Dominion's director of corporate philanthropy.

From Early Bird Mercury protections needed in Virginia

(Friday) Virginia's extensive coastline and natural waterways are among our most significant natural resources, providing jobs for farmers and watermen, and recreation for tourists and locals. Unfortunately, many of those same lakes, streams and coasts are heavily polluted by the aging coal-fired power plants across our state. Like many Virginians, I live near the James River, one of the critical waterways in our state that is plagued by harmful toxics and pollutants like mercury. Eight out of 10 of Virginia's river basins currently have fish-consumption advisories for dangerous levels of mercury. In 2010, a total of 65 fish-consumption advisories were issued in Virginia, many for mercury contamination. Yet, because only selected water bodies are monitored, this number does not reflect the full extent of chemical contamination of fish tissues in our state. We may not spend time thinking about what kind of toxins might be in our dinner, but because of outdated federal environmental protections that allow polluters to dump toxins into our waterways, the fish on our plates might have serious health consequences.

ROANOKE TIMES

From Early Bird Uranium in Pittsylvania County: buried treasure or threat? More than 100 million pounds of uranium lie beneath the surface of this peaceful Pittsylvania County farm. It's up to the state to decide whether it will ever see the light of day. CHATHAM "Of all the cow pastures in Pittsylvania County, where dairy farms dot the rolling landscape, this one looks no different than the rest. But it is, as Patrick Wales and his Geiger counter are about to demonstrate. On a blustery November afternoon, Wales walks along a fence line, pointing the device downward. The Geiger counter begins to tick wildly, indicating that below the ground lies a vast deposit of uranium.

TRI-CITIES.COM

Water quality regulations concern Southwest Virginia farmers CLEVELAND, Va Six springs and two creeks run across Austin Owens' 80-acre farm, and when it rains the steep, rocky pastures fill up with all kinds of running water. With a scenic view of mountains in all directions from his family's modest hilltop home, Owens, 24, raises cattle on four pieces of family land and one rented pasture. Now, thanks to environmental regulations, he's afraid he'll lose the ability to make a living as a farmer. "If they change it [to require stream buffer zones], it's going to go from 20 acres of forest and 60 acres of grazing to the opposite," he said of the farm that sits below his family home. "I'll lose that whole hillside over there because the creek runs all the way down through here." He's one of several farmers in Russell and Washington counties who say they're worried about a new set of water quality regulations anticipated from the federal government. They said Southwest Virginia, with its many streams and small, family-owned farms, could be hit hard "with potentially devastating effects for the region's economy as well as the overall food supply."

FREDERICKSBURG FREE LANCE-STAR

Dominion fee for solar users drawing heat

Alternative energy advocates are upset that Dominion can charge people for solar. Alternative energy advocates are upset about a new fee Dominion Virginia Power plans to charge some people with large solar systems in their houses. The State Corporation Commission recently gave Dominion permission to charge a "standby" fee to people who have a solar system between 10 kilowatts and 20 kilowatts. That fee (\$2.79 per kilowatt for distribution and \$1.40 per kilowatt for transmission) could potentially be \$60 a month for the largest systems, something solar supporters say would discourage people from installing large solar systems. Right now, only one Dominion customer in all of Virginia has a system larger than 10 kilowatts, according to Dominion spokesman Tom Kazas. The company has about 540 customers with solar systems. Francis Hodson, director of the MD-DC-VA Solar Energy Industry Association, said there are so few larger systems because, prior to this year, people with solar systems over 10 kilowatts weren't allowed to connect to the grid. More than 10 kilowatts.

MISCELLANEOUS

NEW YORK TIMES

From Early Bird Climate Talks in Durban Yield Limited Agreement

DURBAN, South Africa -- After 72 hours of continuous wrangling, the 17th conference of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change wrapped up early Sunday with modest accomplishments: the promise to work toward a new global treaty in coming years and the establishment of a new climate fund. The deal on a future treaty renews the Kyoto Protocol, the fraying 1997 emissions agreement that sets different terms for advanced and developing countries, for several more years. But it also begins a process for replacing the Kyoto agreement with something that treats all countries -- including the economic powerhouses China, India and Brazil -- equally. The deal on a future treaty was the most highly contested element of a package of agreements that emerged from the extended talks among 200 nations here.

From Early Bird Getting Gas Drilling Right After several crowded and often raucous hearings, Gov. Andrew Cuomo agreed to give the public until Jan. 11 to comment on 2,000 pages of environmental analysis and proposed regulations designed to govern natural gas drilling in deep shale formations in New York State. The extension makes sense. The drilling decision is a momentous one, for the environment and the economy, and it is vitally important to get it right.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

From Early Bird Administration moves to end state-by-state listing for endangered plants, animals WASHINGTON -- The Obama administration proposed a new rule Friday that would end a practice in which some endangered species were classified differently in neighboring states. The new policy would clarify that a plant or animal could be listed as threatened or endangered if threats occur in a "significant portion of its range," even if the threat crosses state lines and does not apply in the species' entire range.

From Early Bird EPA report on Wyoming water doesn't end fracking debate Early report on pollution gets mixed response CHEYENNE, Wyo. -- A U.S. Environmental Protection Agency draft finding that it may have detected groundwater pollution resulting from a controversial technique that plays a huge role in modern oil and gas development isn't settled science yet. Nor is it settled politics, especially where hydraulic fracturing has been opening up vast new oil and gas reserves and creating economic opportunities that might not otherwise exist.

COURIER POST

Delaware Bay rated highly for bird watchingShoreline 'globally significant' for birding. Thirty years of research by New Jersey state wildlife scientists, New Jersey Audubon and other groups has culminated in 50 miles of the Delaware Bay shoreline being named a “globally significant important bird area,” a designation that could help focus more **conservation efforts on the region.****The bayshore from Cape May Point west to Fairfield in Cumberland County encompasses 50,000 acres of beaches, wetlands and forest, and was selected based largely on its importance to four species: the red knot and ruddy turnstone shorebirds, and black ducks and snow geese.**

BLOOMBERG NEWS

Obama Winning Climate Debate as China ListensThe U.S., long accused of blocking progress in international climate talks, is winning a two-decade old debate about how to curtail global warming. The decision yesterday by China and India to move toward an agreement with the “legal force” to limit their fossil fuel emissions marked the first step toward treating developing nations the same as industrial ones when it comes to reducing pollution. President Barack Obama, and George W. Bush before him, pushed for that parity after the Senate refused to ratify the Kyoto Protocol, which limits greenhouse gases for industrial nations. Developing nations such as China and India had no commitments under Kyoto. “The U.S. saw an opportunity to push China into accepting the same rules as everyone else and took it,” said Andrew Light, coordinator of climate policy at the Center for American Progress, a research group in Washington with White House ties.

Water Wranglers Gush With Work to Fend Off EPA Gary Evans founded his company, GreenHunter Energy Inc. (GRH), to tap into the growing need for renewable energy. Last year, he saw a bigger opportunity in the oil and natural-gas business: water. As local and federal regulators raise questions about potential pollution from drilling operations, U.S. oil and gas producers are turning to companies like GreenHunter to improve their handling of the millions of gallons of fluids involved in an average well. An investigation by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency found evidence of chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, in a drinking-water aquifer in Wyoming, the agency reported last week. Water-service companies help manage the chemical-tainted water that’s a byproduct of drilling and production, cleaning and recycling it for re-use, and hauling it away for disposal.